

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 15. (cancelled)
- 16. (cancelled)
- 17. (cancelled)
- 18. (cancelled)
- 19. (cancelled)
- 20. (cancelled)
- 21. (cancelled)
- 22. (cancelled)
- 23. (cancelled)
- 24. (cancelled)
- 25. (cancelled)
- 26. (cancelled)
- 27. (cancelled)
- 28. (cancelled)
- 29. (cancelled)
- 30. (cancelled)
- 31. (cancelled)
- 32. (cancelled)

33. (New) A method of playing a wagering game with a dealer and at least one player comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing at least one standard deck of 52 playing cards plus at least one joker;
- (b) providing a published ranking of winning hands ranked from highest to lowest;
- (c) providing a pre-determined pay scale for winning hands;
- (d) providing a pre-determined minimum hand ranking for a dealer to achieve as a qualifying hand;
- (e) the player makes certain initial wager(s) of the following types of wagers;
 - (i.) a first wager against the dealer, and
 - (ii.) a voluntary wager against a predetermined pay scale,
- (f) dealing two cards to each player;
- (g) dealing two cards to the dealer;
- (h) giving the player the option of ending wagering game and forfeiting all initial wagers made in step (e) above if said player does not wish to continue to play the wagering game;
- (i) giving the player option of proceeding to play the wagering game against the dealer by player placing a third support wager in support of the first wager against the dealer;
- (j) the game ending if the dealer fails to achieve said qualifying hand in accordance with said pre-determined minimum hand ranking and dealer paying the player's certain initial wager(s), if wagered, against said predetermined pay scale;
- (k) the game proceeding if the dealer has achieved said qualifying hand in accordance with said pre-determined minimum hand ranking and the player has not ended game in step (h) above;
- (l) comparing the player's two card poker hand against the dealer's two card poker hand;
- (m) identifying the outcome of the wagering game by correlating the player's and dealer's two card poker hands to the published ranking of winning hands, and paying the winning hand as follows:

- (i.) if the player's hand outranks the dealer's hand according to the published ranking of winning hands, dealer pays the player's certain initial wager(s) against the dealer and player's third support wager;
- (ii.) if the player has achieved a rank at least as high as the first ranking according to the published ranking, dealer pays the player's separate voluntary wager against said predetermined pay scale;
- (iii.) if the dealer's hand outranks the players hand according to the published ranking of winning hands, dealer takes the player's certain initial wager(s) against the dealer and player's third support wager;
- (iv.) if the player fails to achieve at least the minimum ranking according to the published ranking of winning hands, dealer takes the player's separate voluntary wager against said predetermined pay scale; and
- (v.) if the player has the same ranking as the dealer according to the published ranking of winning hands, the dealer returns the player's certain initial wager(s) and player's third support wager;

(n) giving the player option of continuing wagering game before a shuffle of the standard deck of 52 playing cards plus at least one joker is made by repeating steps (e) through (m).

34. (New) The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the game is played with a standard deck of 52 cards with no jokers.

35. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein there is only one round of cards delivered before the shuffle.

36. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein there is more than one deck of cards used for the wagering game.

37. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the number of rounds dealt to the players before the shuffle is greater than two.

38. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a player is provided an opportunity to make a bad beat wager including the further steps of:

Providing a pre-determined published ranking of winning bad beat hands;
Permitting the player to place an additional wager against said pre-determined published ranking of winning bad beat hands;

Providing that the player may win said additional wager even in the event the player's hand is outranked by the dealer's hand so long as the player's hand appears on the said pre-determined published ranking of winning bad beat hands.

39. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the player may bet on the value of the dealer's hand.

40. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the game may have a designated wild card, produced electronically.

41. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a different version of the game may have the player needing to qualify to continue play.

42. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein no participant had to qualify to continue play.

43. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a progressive side wager may be added for achieving certain hands.

44. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein another version of the game may have the dealer dealing three cards to the player and himself and using the best two out of three cards to form a two card poker hand.

45. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the number of jokers used is two.

46. The method of playing a wagering game as set forth in Claim 1, wherein a Play bet may be a multiple of an Ante bet.